

Message Text

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45

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 IO-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 RSR-01 /108 W

----- 029898

R WWTQTEQZ APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7872

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USUN 285

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONROVIA 2104

E. O. 11652: XGDS - DATE IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERINE

TAGS: PINT, LI, IS, US, OAU

SUBJECT: LIBERIAN DEMARCHE TO ISRAEL ON OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

1. PRESIDENT TOLBERT CALLED ME IN MONRING APRIL 25 TO BRING TO USG ATTENTION DEMARCHE HE PLANS TO MAKE TO ISRAEL REGARDING ARAB OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. HE EXPLATNED THAT HE WAS TAKING USG INTO HIS CONFIDENCE IN ADVANCE OF DELIVERY HIS NOTE BECAUSE OF THE CLOSE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LIBERIA AND US AND HIS OWN PERSONAL CLOSE ASSOCIATION WTH PRESIDENT NIXON.

2. HE THEN HANDED ME NOTE WHICH HE SAID HE PROPOSED DELIVERING TO ISRAEL (PROBABLY THROUGH ISRAELI AMBASSADOR HERE) EXPRESSING HIS GOVERNMENT' S APPREHENSION OVER THE DISQUIETING TREND APPARENT IN THE ISRAELI CONTINUED OCCUPATION BY FORCE OR ANNEXATION OF ARAB LANDS. THIS SITUATION, WHICH HAD DEVELOPED IN THE FACE OF UN RESOLUTIONS, WORLD OPINION AND AN INNREASINGLY MORE SEVERE OAU POSITION WAS EMBARRASSING TO ISRAEL' S FRIENDS SUCH AS LIBERIA. DOCUMENT CONCLUDED BY ASKING FOR ASSURANCES FROM ISRAEL AND STRESSING THE NEED FOR SOME INDICATION THAT FEARS REGARDING ISRAEL' S INTENTIONS TWOARD ARAB OCCUPIED TERRITORIES WERE NOT WELL FOUNDED.
CONFIDENTIAL

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3. AFTER HE HAD READ MESSAGE, PRESIDENT ADDED THAT POSITION IN OAU FORUMS, WHERE THERE EARLIER HAD BEEN CONSIDERABLE SYMPATHY FOR ISRAEL, WAS HARDENING. LIBERIA WAS IN A PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT SITUATION. AS ONE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MODERATE

AFRICAN STATES, LIBERIA WANTED TO AVOID IRRETRIEVABLE CONFRONTATIONS. ON THE OTHER HAND IT RISKED BEING BERATED AS A STOOGES IN THE CAMP OF COLONIALISTS AND NOT IN SYMPATHY WITH AFRICAN OPINION IF IT WERE NOT TO TAKE A SOMEWHAT FORCEFUL POSITION.

4. PRESIDENT ENDED BY SAYING HE PLACED GREAT VALUE ON LIBERIAN FRIENDSHIP FOR US AND FOR THIS REASON WANTED US TO KNOW WHAT LIBERIA PLANNED TO DO EVEN BEFORE IT DID IT. HE SAID HE WOULD INFORM ME LATER WHEN HIS GOVERNMENT HAD APPROACHED ISRAEL AS WELL AS ISRAEL'S RESPONSE.
MANFULL

CONFIDENTIAL

NMAFVVZCZ

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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